

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
U.S. Application No. 09/995,814

REMARKS

Claims 3, 5 and 23 have been amended. Entry of the amendment is respectfully requested.

Claim 23 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement.

Applicants have amended claim 23 in accordance with the Examiner's suggestion.

Claims 3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Claims 3 and 5 have been amended in response thereto.

Claims 1, 2, 4 and 6-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,169,163 B1 to Woo et al for reasons of record.

Claims 1-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,361,887 B1 to Shi et al for reasons of record.

Claims 1-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as obvious over EP 1 043 382 A2 to Noguchi et al for reasons of record.

Applicants are presently preparing a response to the outstanding rejection, and expect to file the response soon. A request for Suspension of Action and RCE is concurrently filed herewith.

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The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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